

US Government Small Grant Funding Opportunities

To help empower grassroots organizations and community groups working to strengthen the fabric of civil society in Pakistan, the US Embassy will provide \$50 million in grants through two new complementary grant programs. The programs will give special to consideration to applicants from flood-affected areas.

The Ambassador's Fund is intended to support the self-help initiatives of communities and local groups for projects up to one year. The overall purpose of the Fund is to enable the U.S. Ambassador to respond to urgent community needs or opportunities that may arise in Pakistan. Grants will be made for amounts not exceeding \$100,000 with rare case-by-case exceptions up to \$250,000. Communities and civil society groups are encouraged to contribute 25 percent of the total project resources themselves or through in-kind contributions. Approximately 250 awards are anticipated.

To be eligible for support under the Ambassador's Fund a proposal should:

- Improve basic economic or social conditions at the local community level;
- Support high-impact and quickly implementable activities that benefit a large number of people within one year, and which do not require further funding;
- Be limited to organizations that demonstrate adequate management capabilities to plan, organize and execute activities, utilizing local resources,

The Small Grants Program will fund time-limited awards under \$250,000 to support innovative one- to three-year proposals from Pakistani organizations. The program is designed to fund innovative activities that promote USAID's development objectives that may not necessarily fit into existing U.S. government programs. Up to 100 grants will be awarded to Pakistani NGOs, civil society groups and communities. A competitive proposal must meet the following criteria:

- Be innovative and unique;
- Be independently developed by the applicant;
- Be consistent with and supportive of USAID/Pakistan's strategy and objectives;
- Be able to meet a specific programmatic need; and,
- Not be an advance proposal for forthcoming USAID solicitation that will be competitively awarded.

Both the Ambassador's Fund and Small Grants programs will be implemented by the National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), located in Islamabad. NRSP can be contacted via telephone at 92-51-2822319 or E-mail contact: applications.sgafp@nrsp.org.pk. Interested parties may also visit NRSP's website: <http://www.nrsp.org.pk>